

## **ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

The environmentally preferred alternative represents the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy expressed in the National Environmental Policy Act (Section 101 (b)). The “Forty Most Asked Questions concerning Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act Regulations” suggests “this means the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it also means the alternative which best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources.” (Q6a)

Alternative C represents the environmentally preferred alternative for the historic site in this document. This alternative would emphasize the preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources. Visitor services and facilities would have the least possible impact on resources. At the same time, this alternative would ensure that visits to the historic site would take place in safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings. Important historic and cultural aspects of our national heritage would receive preservation while maintaining an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice. At the same time, this alternative would achieve a balance between human population and resource considerations.